

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1-35. Canceled

36. (Currently Amended) A method implemented by a resource to configure itself to be part of a particular domain on a network, wherein the particular domain defines a set of resources that can be accessed on the network, and wherein access to the set of resources in the particular domain is controlled by a domain controller, the method comprising:

obtaining a set of configuration information, the set of configuration information comprising login information for an administrator account on the particular domain that has high level administrative privileges, the set of configuration information further comprising network information for enabling the resource to communicate on the network;

upon obtaining the set of configuration information, automatically performing the following without user intervention:

configuring the resource in accordance with at least a portion of the network information;

interacting with the domain controller, using the login information, to log in to the administrator account on the particular domain; and

causing, using the administrative privileges of the administrator account, the domain controller to register the resource with the particular domain such that the domain controller recognizes the resource as being part of the set of resources that are in the particular domain; ~~and~~

~~causing, using the administrative privileges of the administrator account, the domain controller to establish a user account on the particular domain to enable a user to log on to the particular domain using the user~~

~~account and access at least a subset of the set of resources in the particular domain.~~

37. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 36, further comprising:
interacting with a server to obtain an address for the domain controller to enable the resource to communicate and interact with the domain controller.

38. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 37, wherein the network information comprises an address for the server to enable the resource to communicate and interact with the server.

39. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 36, wherein at least a portion of the configuration information is imbedded within a computer program, and wherein obtaining the configuration information comprises:

extracting the portion of the configuration information from the computer program.

40. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 39, wherein the portion of the configuration information is encrypted, and wherein extracting the portion of the configuration information comprises:

decrypting the portion of the configuration information.

41. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 36, wherein the network information comprises information specific to the resource, and wherein obtaining the configuration information comprises:

retrieving the information specific to the resource from a registry stored within the resource.

42. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 36, wherein at least a portion of the configuration information is user-specifiable.

43. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 36, further comprising:
establishing a local user account on the resource to enable the user to log in to and use the resource.

44. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 36, wherein the resource comprises an established permission which enables another user to use the resource, and wherein the method further comprises:
establishing a new permission within the resource to enable the other user to use the resource to log on to the particular domain.

45. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 36, further comprising:
causing, using the administrative privileges of the administrator account, the domain controller to establish a user account on the particular domain to enable a user to log on to the particular domain using the user account and access at least a subset of the set of resources in the particular domain; and
establishing a permission within the resource to enable the user to use the resource to log in to the user account on the particular domain.

46. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 36, further comprising:

causing, using the administrative privileges of the administrator account, the domain controller to establish a user account on the particular domain to enable a user to log on to the particular domain using the user account and access at least a subset of the set of resources in the particular domain;

finding, within the resource, an existing profile associated with another account held by the user for another domain, wherein the existing profile comprises information that defines an operating environment that has been customized by the user for the other domain; and

copying the existing profile into a profile associated with the user account on the particular domain, thereby, migrating the operating environment associated with the other account for the other domain into the user account on the particular domain.

47. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 36, further comprising:

causing, using the administrative privileges of the administrator account, the domain controller to establish a user account on the particular domain to enable a user to log on to the particular domain using the user account and access at least a subset of the set of resources in the particular domain;

installing in the resource a computer program which, when executed by the resource, causes the resource to perform the following operations:

finding, within the resource, an existing profile associated with another account held by the user for another domain, wherein the existing profile comprises information that defines an operating environment that has been customized by the user for the other domain; and

copying the existing profile into a profile associated with the user account on the particular domain, thereby, migrating the operating environment associated with the other account for the other domain into the user account on the particular domain.

48. (Currently Amended) A computer readable storage medium comprising program instructions, which when executed by one or more processors of a resource, cause the resource to configure itself to be part of a particular domain on a network, wherein the particular domain defines a set of resources that can be accessed on the network, and wherein access to the set of resources in the particular domain is controlled by a domain controller, the program instructions comprising:

instructions for causing one or more processors to obtain a set of configuration information, the set of configuration information comprising login information for an administrator account on the particular domain that has high level administrative privileges, the set of configuration information further comprising network information for enabling the resource to communicate on the network;

instructions for causing one or more processors to automatically configure, without user intervention, the resource in accordance with at least a portion of the network information;

instructions for causing one or more processors to automatically interact, without user intervention, with the domain controller, using the login information, to log in to the administrator account on the particular domain; and

instructions for causing one or more processors to automatically cause, without user intervention, using the administrative privileges of the administrator account, the domain controller to register the resource with the particular domain such that the domain controller

recognizes the resource as being part of the set of resources that are in the particular domain;
and

~~instructions for causing one or more processors to automatically cause, without user intervention, using the administrative privileges of the administrator account, the domain controller to establish a user account on the particular domain to enable a user to log on to the particular domain using the user account and access at least a subset of the set of resources in the particular domain.~~

49. (Previously Presented) The computer readable storage medium of claim 48, wherein the program instructions further comprise:

instructions for causing one or more processors to interact with a server to obtain an address for the domain controller to enable the resource to communicate and interact with the domain controller.

50. (Previously Presented) The computer readable storage medium of claim 49, wherein the network information comprises an address for the server to enable the resource to communicate and interact with the server.

51. (Previously Presented) The computer readable storage medium of claim 48, wherein the program instructions are embodied in a computer program, and wherein at least a portion of the configuration information is imbedded within the computer program.

52. (Previously Presented) The computer readable storage medium of claim 51, wherein the instructions for causing one or more processors to obtain the configuration information comprises:

instructions for causing one or more processors to extract the portion of the configuration information from the computer program.

53. (Previously Presented) The computer readable storage medium of claim 52, wherein the portion of the configuration information is encrypted, and wherein the instructions for causing one or more processors to extract the portion of the configuration information comprises:

instructions for causing one or more processors to decrypt the portion of the configuration information.

54. (Previously Presented) The computer readable storage medium of claim 51, wherein the program instructions further comprise:

instructions for causing one or more processors to receive a set of input; and

instructions for causing one or more processors to imbed the set of input within the computer program as the portion of the configuration information.

55. (Previously Presented) The computer readable storage medium of claim 54, wherein the instructions for causing one or more processors to imbed the set of input within the computer program comprises:

instructions for causing one or more processors to encrypt the set of input.

56. (Previously Presented) The computer readable storage medium of claim 48, wherein the network information comprises information specific to the resource, and wherein the instructions for causing one or more processors to obtain the configuration information comprises:

instructions for causing one or more processors to retrieve the information specific to the resource from a registry stored within the resource.

57. (Previously Presented) The computer readable storage medium of claim 48, wherein at least a portion of the configuration information is user-specifiable.

58. (Previously Presented) The computer readable storage medium of claim 48, wherein the program instructions further comprise:

instructions for causing one or more processors to establish a local user account on the resource to enable the user to log in to and use the resource.

59. (Previously Presented) The computer readable storage medium of claim 48, wherein the resource comprises an established permission which enables another user to use the resource, and wherein the program instructions further comprise:

instructions for causing one or more processors to establish a new permission within the resource to enable the other user to use the resource to log on to the particular domain.

60. (Currently Amended) The computer readable storage medium of claim 48, wherein the program instructions further comprise:

instructions for causing one or more processors to automatically cause, without user intervention, using the administrative privileges of the administrator account, the domain controller to establish a user account on the particular domain to enable a user to log on to the particular domain using the user account and access at least a subset of the set of resources in the particular domain; and

instructions for causing one or more processors to establish a permission within the resource to enable the user to use the resource to log in to the user account on the particular domain.

61. (Currently Amended) The computer readable storage medium of claim 48, wherein the program instructions further comprise:

instructions for causing one or more processors to automatically cause, without user intervention, using the administrative privileges of the administrator account, the domain controller to establish a user account on the particular domain to enable a user to log on to the particular domain using the user account and access at least a subset of the set of resources in the particular domain;

instructions for causing one or more processors to find, within the resource, an existing profile associated with another account held by the user for another domain, wherein the existing profile comprises information that defines an operating environment that has been customized by the user for the other domain; and

instructions for causing one or more processors to copy the existing profile into a profile associated with the user account on the particular domain, thereby, migrating the operating environment associated with the other account for the other domain into the user account on the particular domain.

62. (Previously Presented) The computer readable storage medium of claim 61, wherein the program instructions are embodied in a computer program, and wherein the program instructions further comprise:

instructions for causing one or more processors to install the computer program onto the resource.

63. (Previously Presented) The computer readable storage medium of claim 62, wherein the computer program has a first name, and wherein the instructions for causing one or more processors to install the computer program comprises:

instructions for causing one or more processors to rename the computer program to a second name before installing it onto the resource.

64. (Previously Presented) The computer readable storage medium of claim 63, wherein the program instructions further comprise:

instructions for causing one or more processors to determine a current name associated with the computer program; and

instructions for causing one or more processors, in response to a determination that the current name of the computer program is the second name, to forego execution of all instructions except for the instructions for causing one or more processors to find the existing profile associated with another account held by the user for another domain, and the instructions for causing one or more processors to copy the existing profile into a profile associated with the user account on the particular domain.

65. (New) The method of claim 36, further comprising:

causing, using the administrative privileges of the administrator account, the domain controller to establish a user account on the particular domain to enable a user to log on to the particular domain using the user account and access at least a subset of the set of resources in the particular domain.

66. (New) The computer readable storage medium of claim of claim 48, wherein the program instructions further comprise:

instructions for causing one or more processors to automatically cause, without user intervention, using the administrative privileges of the administrator account, the domain controller to establish a user account on the particular domain to enable a user to log on to the particular domain using the user account and access at least a subset of the set of resources in the particular domain.